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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/730,886	12/10/2003	Gen Suzuki	032150	5197
38834	7590	01/05/2006	EXAMINER	
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP			ROY, SIKHA	
1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW			ART UNIT	
SUITE 700			PAPER NUMBER	
WASHINGTON, DC 20036			2879	

DATE MAILED: 01/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/730,886	Applicant(s) AK SUZUKI ET AL.	
	Examiner Sikha Roy	Art Unit 2879	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2003.
 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 October 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/10/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The Preliminary Amendment, filed on December 10, 2003 has been entered and is acknowledged by the Examiner.

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

Figures 1 and 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Page 3 line 8 'quarts' should be replaced by --quartz--.

Page 4 line 10, 'a anode drive IC (integrated circuit) 1' should be replaced by --an anode drive IC (integrated circuit) 11--

Appropriate corrections are required.

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

Claims 7,8 and 10-14 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 7 and 8 which depend on claims 4 and 5 respectively 'the conductor' in line 1 should be 'a conductor' as there is no mention of any conductor in the claims 4 and 5.

Claims 10-14 depending on claims 4-8 respectively 'the circuit structure body' in line 2 should be 'a circuit structure body' as there is no mention of any circuit structure in claims 4-8.

Appropriate corrections are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 -14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,160,346 to Vleggaar et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,940,502 to Lin et al.

Regarding claim 1 Vleggaar discloses (Fig. 1 column 6 lines 40-58) an organic EL display device including an airtight and waterproof container (housing) of low-melting metal for sealing an organic EL structure 2 having organic luminescence function layer 4 formed between a pair of electrodes 3 and 5 formed on a substrate.

Claim 1 differs from Vleggaar in that Vleggaar does not exemplify the airtight container provided with a potential.

Lin in pertinent field of flat panel display discloses (Figs. 1,5 column 1 lines 21-46, column 2 lines 44-62) discloses a display device 10 including a housing 12 which is a conductor, electrically connected to the ground terminal so as to connect to a ground level during operation. It is to be noted this configuration provides the display device with noise prevention and electromagnetic shielding during operation.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have the conducting container of the organic display device of Vleggaar provided with a potential (ground potential) as taught by Lin for reducing noise and providing electromagnetic noise shielding during operation of the device.

Regarding claim 2 Vleggaar discloses the airtight container is made of conductive material (low-melting point metal).

Regarding claim 3 Vleggaar discloses (Fig.2 Embodiment 2 column 8 lines 25-36) the airtight container is constituted by a non conductive material 32 and one layer 28 of conductive layer.

Regarding claim 4 Vleggaar discloses (Fig. 4 Embodiment 3 column 8 line 64 through column 9 line 9) the airtight container has an insulating layer 51 formed on the surface of the container 48.

Regarding claim 5 Vleggaar in view of Lin discloses the potential applied to the container includes a reference potential point (ground potential).

Regarding claim 6 Lin discloses (Figs. 1 and 5) a conductor connected with the container (housing 12) disposed in one place to apply a potential to the container. The reason for combining the arts as in claim 1 applies.

Claims 7 and 8 essentially recite the same limitation as of claim 6 and hence are rejected for the same reason.

Regarding claim 9 Vleggaar and Lin discloses (Fig. 5) a circuit structure body (14A, 14B, 14c, 14d) for driving the organic EL display mounted on the substrate and these circuit bodies 14 being connected to the housing the potential applied to the housing is at least one potential used in the circuit structure. The reason for combining the arts as in claim 1 applies.

Claims 10-14 essentially recite the same limitations as of claim 9 and hence are rejected for the same reason (see rejection of claim 9).

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Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent 6,107,735 to Hora discloses electroluminescent lamp having external auxiliary electrode covering the device and grounded for noise prevention and electromagnetic shielding. U.S. Patent 5,923,309 to Ishizuka et al. and U.S. Patent 6,894,436 to Togashi et al. disclose circuit connections for driving organic EL display device. U.S. Patent 5,771,562 to Harvey et al. discloses organic EL device with metal encapsulation.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sikha Roy whose telephone number is (571) 272-2463. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sikha Roy

Sikha Roy
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2879